

CLAIMS

That which is claimed:

1. A method comprising:
identifying an aspect associated with an article;
generating an insert based, at least in part, on the aspect, wherein the insert
comprises a search result; and
causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein automatically generating the insert comprises
searching an article index for the search result.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the article index comprises an index of articles
available on the World Wide Web.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein the article index comprises a local article index.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the local article index comprises a messaging
index.
6. The method of claim 2, wherein searching the article index for the search result
comprises generating a user context-dependent search query.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the user context-dependent search query is based, at least in part, on a user action history comprising a plurality of user actions.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the search result comprises at least one of an article identifier, a thumbnail, a text snippet, a Uniform Resource Locator, and a path.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises placing at least part of the insert into the article.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises causing the display of at least part of the insert in a transient display proximate to the aspect.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises causing the display of at least part of the insert in a window separate from the article.
12. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of identifying the aspect, generating the insert, and causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect is based, at least in part, on a user preference.
13. The method of claim 12, further comprising receiving the user preference.

14. The method of claim 12, further comprising determining the user preference based, at least in part, on a user action history comprising a plurality of user actions.
15. The method of claim 12, further comprising determining the user preference based, at least in part, on a system analysis.
16. The method of claim 1, wherein the aspect comprises a hyperlink.
17. The method of claim 1, wherein the aspect comprises a title.
18. The method of claim 1, wherein the aspect comprises an image.
19. The method of claim 1, wherein the aspect comprises a menu item.
20. The method of claim 1, wherein the aspect comprises an input field.
21. The method of claim 1, wherein the article comprises a web page.
22. The method of claim 1, wherein the article comprises a text document.
23. The method of claim 1, wherein the article comprises an email message.

24. The method of claim 1, wherein the article comprises an instant messenger message.
25. A method comprising:
- identifying an aspect associated with an article;
 - automatically searching a local article index with a user context-dependent search query for a search result associated with the aspect;
 - automatically generating an insert comprising the search result;
 - placing the insert into the article such that the insert will be displayed near the aspect when the article is displayed; and
 - causing the article to be displayed.
26. A method comprising:
- identifying an aspect associated with an article;
 - generating an insert based, at least in part, on the aspect, wherein the insert comprises a request; and
 - causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect.
27. The method of claim 26, wherein automatically generating the insert comprises generating a user context-dependent request.
28. The method of claim 26, wherein the user context-dependent request is based, at least in part, on a user action history comprising a plurality of user actions.

29. The method of claim 26, wherein the request comprises an article-related request.

30. The method of claim 26, wherein causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises placing at least part of the insert into the article.

31. The method of claim 26, wherein causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises causing the display of at least part of the insert in a transient display proximate to the aspect.

32. The method of claim 26, wherein causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises causing the display of at least part of the insert in a window separate from the article.

33. The method of claim 26, wherein at least one of identifying the aspect, generating the insert, and causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect is based, at least in part, on a user preference.

34. The method of claim 33, further comprising receiving the user preference.

35. The method of claim 33, further comprising determining the user preference based, at least in part, on a user action history comprising a plurality of user actions.

- 36. The method of claim 33, further comprising determining the user preference based, at least in part, on a system analysis.
- 37. The method of claim 26, wherein the aspect comprises a hyperlink.
- 38. The method of claim 26, wherein the aspect comprises a title.
- 39. The method of claim 26, wherein the aspect comprises an image.
- 40. The method of claim 26, wherein the aspect comprises a menu item.
- 41. The method of claim 26, wherein the aspect comprises an input field.
- 42. The method of claim 26, wherein the article comprises a web page.
- 43. The method of claim 26, wherein the article comprises a text document.
- 44. The method of claim 26, wherein the article comprises an email message.
- 45. The method of claim 26, wherein the article comprises an instant messenger message.

46. A method comprising:
- identifying an aspect associated with an article;
 - generating a user context-dependent request associated with the aspect;
 - automatically generating an insert comprising the request;
 - placing the insert into the article such that the insert will be displayed near the aspect when the article is displayed; and
 - displaying the article.
47. A computer-readable medium on which is encoded program code, the program code comprising:
- program code for identifying an aspect associated with an article;
 - program code for generating an insert based, at least in part, on the aspect,
- wherein the insert comprises a search result; and
- program code for causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect.
48. The computer-readable medium of claim 47, wherein the program code for automatically generating the insert comprises program code for searching an article index for the search result.
49. The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the article index comprises an index of articles available on the World Wide Web.

50. The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the article index comprises a local article index.

51. The computer-readable medium of claim 50, wherein the local article index comprises a messaging index.

52. The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the program code for searching the article index for the search result comprises program code for generating a user context-dependent search query.

53. The computer-readable medium of claim 52, wherein the user context-dependent search query is based, at least in part, on a user action history comprising a plurality of user actions.

54. The computer-readable medium of claim 47, wherein the search result comprises at least one of an article identifier, a thumbnail, a text snippet, a Uniform Resource Locator, and a path.

55. The computer-readable medium of claim 47, wherein the program code for causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises program code for placing at least part of the insert into the article.

56. The computer-readable medium of claim 47, wherein the program code for causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises program code for causing the display of at least part of the insert in a transient display proximate to the aspect.

57. The computer-readable medium of claim 47, wherein the program code for causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises program code for causing the display of at least part of the insert in a window separate from the article.

58. The computer-readable medium of claim 47, wherein the program code for at least one of identifying the aspect, generating the insert, and causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect is based, at least in part, on a user preference.

59. The computer-readable medium of claim 58, further comprising program code for receiving the user preference.

60. The computer-readable medium of claim 58, further comprising program code for determining the user preference based, at least in part, on a user action history comprising a plurality of user actions.

61. The computer-readable medium of claim 58, further comprising program code for determining the user preference based, at least in part, on a system analysis.

62. A computer-readable medium on which is encoded program code, the program code comprising:

program code for identifying an aspect associated with an article;

program code for generating an insert based, at least in part, on the aspect,

wherein the insert comprises a request; and

program code for causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect.

63. The computer-readable medium of claim 62, wherein the program code for automatically generating the insert comprises program code for generating a user context-dependent request.

64. The computer-readable medium of claim 63, wherein the user context-dependent request is based, at least in part, on a user action history comprising a plurality of user actions.

65. The computer-readable medium of claim 62, wherein the request comprises an article-related request.

66. The computer-readable medium of claim 62, wherein the program code for causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises program code for placing at least part of the insert into the article.

67. The computer-readable medium of claim 62, wherein the program code for causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises program code for causing the display of at least part of the insert in a transient display proximate to the aspect.

68. The computer-readable medium of claim 62, wherein the program code for causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect comprises program code for causing the display of at least part of the insert in a window separate from the article.

69. The computer-readable medium of claim 62, wherein the program code for at least one of identifying the aspect, generating the insert, and causing the insert to be output in association with the aspect is based, at least in part, on a user preference.

70. The computer-readable medium of claim 69, further comprising program code for receiving the user preference.

71. The computer-readable medium of claim 69, further comprising program code for determining the user preference based, at least in part, on a user action history comprising a plurality of user actions.

72. The computer-readable medium of claim 69, further comprising program code for determining the user preference based, at least in part, on a system analysis.